Serving Students with Disabilities: How Campus Partnerships Can Enhance College Education

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Problem?
Many personnel in university settings are uncertain about the policies in place regarding students with disabilities. Thus, inaccurate information adversely affects faculty, staff, and — most importantly — students.

Solution?
Develop a self-guided electronic tutorial that addresses common gaps of information.

Project Description
The module-based electronic tutorial is designed to raise awareness about the following issues: Federal and State Legislation, University Policies, Disability Type (and Corresponding Services), and Instructional Strategies for both Faculty and Student Services Personnel.

Desired Outcomes?
a. To raise awareness about policies and procedures within the disability services office.
b. To recommend Best Practices designed to ensure a consistently accessible education for all students with disabilities.

A. Ideation
Identify Common Areas of Misinformation
Note: Information gathered from complaints given throughout the 2012-2013 year.
Determine Format of Project
Explore Delivery Modes

B. Creation
Select Appropriate Software: Articulate Storyline
Note: Software is Section 508-Compliant.
Create Interactive & Informational Tutorial
Note: Modules are organized thus — Introduction & Legislation, Definitions, Disability Type & Services, and Faculty Tools.

C. Pilot
Invite Volunteers to Assess Tutorial
Provide Assessment Tools & Surveys
Incorporate Results into Final Product

Next Steps?
Dissemination Across Campus.
Note: Will occur in Fall 2013 Quarter.
Marketing to Faculty Senate, Student Service Organizations and more.

How is this tutorial organized? 
- For “Introduction” module set provide one narrative for the student, another for faculty/staff
- For “Disability” module, students can see definitions of disabilities and maps to corresponding services.
- For “Legislation” module focus on the necessary legislative changes that pertain to students with disabilities.
- For “Instruction” module, students explore instructional strategies for specific disabilities.
- For “Faculty role” module offers case studies and practical tools for disability services professionals.

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